



SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23

(CENTRAL OKANAGAN)

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"Together We Learn"

December 1, 2011

Dear Parents:

School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) is requesting your input to a **Local** School Calendar for the 2012/2013 school year. This local calendar would create a **two week** spring break for students from Kindergarten to grade 12, March 11, 2013 to March 15, 2013 and March 18, 2013 to March 22, 2013. As this is a variation from the B.C. **Standard** School Calendar (see page 2), we are providing parents with the opportunity to provide their input to the proposal before it is discussed by our Board of Education at a public meeting prior to May, 2012.

The variation from the B.C. Standard School Calendar proposed for next year includes the repositioning of three teacher professional development days from within the school year to the late summer. This movement, along with a small lengthening of the school day [3 to 4 minutes depending on grade level] would provide a two week spring break without the loss of any instructional time. Three individual teacher professional days normally held on Fridays through the school year would now be held in the summer, August 28, 2012 to August 30, 2012, and the three Fridays would become student instructional days to help compensate for the longer spring break.

This variation from the B.C. Standard School Calendar is being proposed for the following reasons:

- a two (2) week spring break has been adopted in the Central Okanagan School District since 2003;
- it allows the District to save money with minimal impact on students;
- single day interruptions to the school year are reduced; and
- teachers are able to participate in three (3) focused days of professional development which they can transfer into their practise.

I invite you to provide your input about this proposal by Friday, January 13, 2012. If you have questions about the proposal, please feel free to contact us via:

- email calendarsurvey@sd23.bc.ca
- your school Principal
- or call Ross Dumontet

Chair – School District No. 23 School Calendar Committee
Phone (250) 860-8888 or Fax (250) 870-5088

In addition to parent input, all partner groups have been asked to provide their opinion of this proposal.

Thank you for your time in reviewing our proposal.

Yours truly,

Ross Dumontet
Director of Instruction - Human Resources

RD/ci

DESIGNATION	B.C. Standard School Calendar 2012/2013	Proposed SD No. 23 Local Calendar 2012/2013
Days in session	194	194 (3 summer Pro Days Aug. 28 – Aug. 30)
Number of days of instruction	187	187*
Number of non-instructional days	6	3
Schools open	September 4	September 4
Administrative Implementation Day	September	TBD or Sept. 21
Thanksgiving Day (schools closed)	October 8	October 8
Teacher Professional Day	October	October 19
Remembrance Day (schools closed)	November 12	November 12
Schools close for Winter vacation	Friday December 21	Friday December 21
Winter vacation period (schools closed)	December 24- January 4	December 24- January 4
Schools reopen after Winter vacation	Monday January 7	Monday January 7
Teacher Professional Day (Support Staff In-Service Day)	February 15	February 15
Proposed Family Day		February 18
Schools close for Spring vacation	Friday March 15	Friday March 8
Spring vacation period (schools closed)	Standard Local Variation March 18-22	March 18-22 + March 11-15
Schools reopen after Spring vacation	Monday March 25	Monday March 25
Good Friday (schools closed)	March 29	March 29
Easter Monday (schools closed)	April 1	April 1
Victoria Day (schools closed)	May 20	May 20
Administrative Day (students do not attend)	Friday June 28	Friday June 28
Schools close	Friday June 28	Friday June 28

Additional locally determined District-wide dates

3 teacher professional development days during the summer (students not in session).

August 28, 2012 – August 30, 2012

3 non-instructional days during the school year (students not in session).

September – Administrative Implementation Day

October – Teacher Professional Day

February – Teacher Professional Day

Variations from B.C. Standard School Calendar 2012/2013

The B.C. Standard School Calendar provides for students to be in session from Monday, March 11, 2013 to Friday, March 15, 2013. Our proposed Local School Calendar would provide for a full two week spring break with these 5 days becoming part of the spring vacation period. *By withdrawing three non-instructional days from the standard school calendar and adding a small number of minutes per school day (3 minutes for Elementary and 4 minutes for Middle/Secondary), the required total hours of instruction for students would be maintained and the required number of days of instruction would be made up by adding time to each school day (as in the B.C. Standard School Calendar).

Final Calendar Determination

We anticipate that the finalized 2012/2013 school calendar will be approved and provided to parents early this Spring. A copy will be provided directly to you through your child's school.